

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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Organization of the State Security Office (Allamvedelmi Hatosag -- AVH).

1. The Political Department (Politikai Osztaly). After the pattern of all Hungarian ministries, one of the principal and integral parts of the AVH was the Political Department. Only the chief of the Political Department [redacted] who was also the deputy AVH commander) and the chief of the Main Administration Department, had direct access to the office of Gabor PETER, the AVH chief. The Political Department was in charge of political indoctrination within the AVH and generally supervised all AVH activities. It established and directed the activities of all AVH schools, and directed selection of AVH cadres, or the personnel attending these schools. The following departments came under the Political Department:
 - a. The Press and Propaganda Department (Sajto es Propaganda Osztaly) was in charge of editing all news dispatches, and no information was released for public consumption until it was cleared with this Department. No public performances or films could be presented without its approval. [redacted]

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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- b. The Press and Radio Censorship Department (Radio es Sajto Ellenorzo Osztaly) worked in close cooperation with the Press and Propaganda Department. It monitored all Hungarian and foreign press dispatches and all Hungarian and Western broadcasts. In short, it concerned itself with checking to see that the orders of the Press and Propaganda Department were carried out.

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- c. The Disciplinary Department (Fegyelmi Osztaly) consisted of approximately five persons. It passed judgment on complaints and administered reprimands and punishments to AVH officer and NCO personnel. The scope of its authority was limited to the meting out of penalties such as fines, reduction in grade, withholding of promotions, and recommendations for discharge.

- d. The Passport Department (Utlevel Osztaly). No passport issued by the Ministry of Interior, ostensibly the issuing agency, was valid without the countersignature of this Department. It also checked requests for visas presented to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. A visa without this Department's approval was invalid.

- e. The Investigation Department (Nyomozo Osztaly) was the plain-clothes branch of the AVH,

this organization operated extensively through the use of informers, and that their operations were mostly of an investigatory nature.

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- f. The Internment Affairs Department (Internalo Osztaly) prepared lists of people for evacuation or deportation, but the local police authorities carried out the operations, sometimes with the help of the BKA (the riot squads).

- g. The Sports Department (Sport Osztaly) was in charge of athletic activities for AVH personnel, plain-clothes and uniformed, supplying them with sports equipment and organizing competitions.

2. The Main Administration Department (Elnokl Osztaly) was the principal coordinating organ of the organization. All persons desiring to see the AVH chief, Gabor PETER, with the two exceptions noted above, were cleared by this Department. Most AVH activities came under the direct supervision of this office. These included:

- a. The Secretariat (Segedhivatal) was the section responsible for interdepartmental communications, the keeping of records and other official documents.

- b. The Personnel Department (Szemelyzeti Osztaly) kept on file personnel records of the entire AVH organization.

- c. The Organization Department (Szervezesi Osztaly) was charged with working out the TO/E of all AVH units, both the uniformed and plain-clothes branches. Also, in conjunction with the Personnel and Training Departments, this Department drew up plans for expansion and reorganization policies for the AVH.

- d. The Supply Department (Hadtap Osztaly) handled supplies for the entire AVH organization and kept records of all equipment including food, buildings, construction materials, horses and vehicles. Under the supervision of this Department were:

(1) The Health Department (Egeszsegugyi Osztaly) and

(2) The Motor Vehicles Department (Gepjaromu Osztaly).

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- e. The Training Department (Kikepzési Osztály) received training devices from the Ministry of Defense and distributed them. This Department also set up training programs for AVH personnel, uniformed and plain-clothes, and saw that they were properly carried out. Under the supervision of this Department were:

(1) The Department of Arms and Ballistics (Fegyver és Lőeszköz Osztály), in charge of AVH weapons and firing instructions.

(2) The Riot Squads Department (Karhatalmi Osztály--BKA). Under this Department came all uniformed AVH internal security personnel. This Department, together with the Political Department, supervised and controlled the following:

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(a) The Mounted Division (Lovas Osztály), composed of the Riot and Service Squads (Karhatalmi és Szolgálati Lovas Osztály) and the Sport Squad (Sport Keret), in charge of horse training and horsemanship.

(b) The Country Outposts Department (Videki Kirendeltsegek Osztálya), which controlled the special assignments of the BKA units in the event of emergency or other requested assistance in the provinces. This Department was based on geographic (county) distributions and composed of:

1 Riot Squad Outposts (Karhatalmi Kirendeltsegek) and

2 Investigation Outposts (Nyomozó Kirendeltsegek).

3. Relationship of AVH with various Ministries.

a. Ministry of Interior

In deportation operations, the AVH prepared the lists of persons to be deported or evacuated, but the actual operations were carried out by local police authorities. AVH agents, both plain-clothes and BKA, were at all times authorized to request the services of the local police, and the latter were obliged to honor these requests immediately.

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orders to that effect, was well known in military and police circles. The Ministry of Interior issued passports, but these had to have the stamp and countersignature of the Passport Section of the AVH to be considered valid.

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b. Ministry of Defense

The relationship of the AVH with the Army was principally in the field of training, both receiving essentially the same type. In the event of emergency, however, all AVH personnel came under the authority of the Minister of Defense. This was one of the standing orders given to military personnel. In addition to the AVH, all "arms bearing" personnel came under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Defense in the event of emergency, including police, firemen, prison guards, customs agents.

c. Frontier Guards

For ordinary training, administration, and equipment, the frontier guards were under the Army. The Frontier Guards also had a plain-clothes division with investigatory functions within the security area along the Hungarian frontier. This division received its training from the Investigation Division of the AVH.

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[REDACTED]

All persons charged with political crimes were immediately turned over to the Investigation Division of the AVH. If the offender was charged with a criminal offense within the frontier security area, he was taken into custody by the Frontier Guard unit of the area. If the offense was committed outside of the security area, the local police authorities handled it. This division of authority was a fact well-known by all police and military personnel.

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Enclosure A: Organizational Chart of the AVH

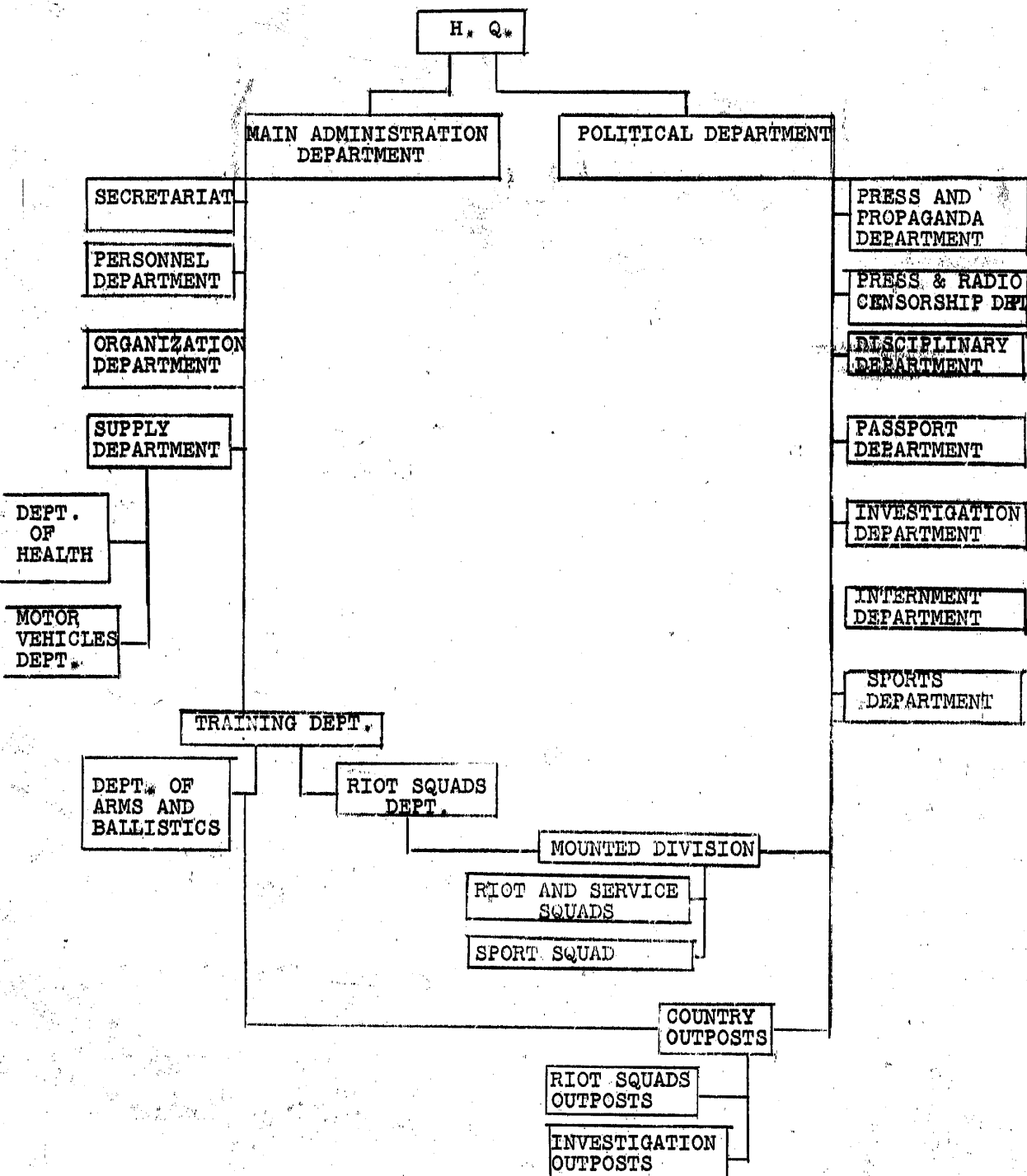
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ENCLOSURE A

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ORGANIZATION OF THE AVH

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